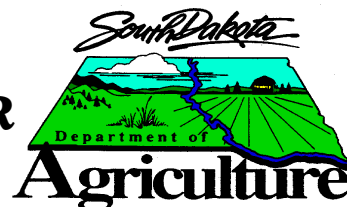


South Dakota Department of Agriculture

PESTICIDE APPLICATOR NEWSLETTER

Fall/Winter 2000 • Issue



COMMERCIAL APPLICATOR TRAINING

Applicator Re-certification Sessions Scheduled

Private:

Contact your local county extension educator for private applicator recertification session location, dates and times. If you have computer access, the recertification dates are listed at the following internet address;
<http://www.abs.sdstate.edu/plantsci/ext/pat/patdates/privdate.htm>

Commercial:

Watch the mail in mid December for a certification and licensing packet from the department of agriculture. Included will be a listing of individual certification categories and the expiration date for those categories. This information will help you decide whether or not you need to attend a session and which location to attend. Notices will be mailed to the most recent address we have on record. If you have had a change of address, let us know.

Please note that a change of address is no excuse for neglecting to apply for a license by March 1, 2001. Some of the locations will have limited categories. The certification and licensing packet will contain a program listing the categories presented at each location. So check your certification needs and be sure to attend the appropriate location. Following are the dates and locations of the commercial sessions.

January 22, 2001 Monday	Mitchell	Holiday Inn
January 23, 2001 Tuesday	Rapid City	Ramkota Inn
January 24, 2001 Wednesday	Pierre	Ramkota Inn
January 26, 2001 Friday	Brookings	Brooking Inn
January 30, 2001 Tuesday	Yankton	Kelly Inn
January 31, 2001 Wednesday	Watertown	Ramkota Inn
February 1, 2001 Thursday	Aberdeen	Ramkota Inn
February 5, 2001 Monday	Sioux Falls	Oakes Inn

Aerial recertification:

February 19-21	Pierre	Ramkota Inn
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Categories 1a, 1b, 1c and 7, presented at aerial recertification are strictly geared to aerial applicators.

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PIERRE, SD 57501-3182
TELEPHONE: 605-773-4432
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www.state.sd.us/doa/das

RODENT PROOFING FOR FALL



With fall upon us and cooler temperatures setting in, that means mice and rats are heading indoors. As rodents look for places to spend the winter, human dwellings and buildings start to feel the pressure of invading rodents.

Agile and adaptable, rodents enter buildings any way that they can. They squeeze through spaces as big as their heads; mice need only 1/4", young rats, 1/2". Rodents can enter dwellings in many ways. They arrive via ventilation grills, sidewalk gratings and sidewalk cracks. They can also gnaw through wooden doors and crawl into spaces where pipes meet wood siding. They can also scale vertical wires, pipes and tree limbs. Rats burrow under foundations of buildings lacking basements. Rodents also get into hollow walls between floors and floor sills. They can also hide in pallets and rush in through open doors. They can also enter through defective drain pipes, traveling inside the pipe or burrowing along side it.

A number of materials will help you keep rodents out of buildings: 1) Galvanized, stainless or other non-rusting materials: a) sheet metal, 24 gauge or higher; b) expanded metal, 28 gauge or higher; c) hardware cloth; 2) Cement mortar: 1 part cement, 3 parts sand mix or richer. 3) Concrete: 1 part cement, 2 parts gravel, 4 parts sand mix or richer. Adding broken glass to mortar or cement will deter rodents from burrowing through as it dries.

To rodent proof your home or buildings the creative use of materials combined with knowledge of rodent behavior will help you exclude these pests. Here are a few ways to use the materials for rodent proofing. Patch holes around plumbing with concrete or mortar. Cover a drain, vent or chimney with hardware cloth. Along the bottom of a door, use sheet metal flashing. Place a metal, circular rat guard on a drain to prevent rats from wedging themselves between the building and the pipe to crawl upwards.

In conclusion keep an eye out for new holes and tunnels into buildings for a week or two after the building has been sealed up. Efforts by rats and mice to return to their old homes will be strongest then.

DEALERS LICENSE REQUIRED FOR EACH OUTLET

With all the mergers and buyouts that have taken place in the past couple of years, it may be possible that outlets may not be properly licensed. Dealers selling restricted-use pesticides (RUP'S) are required to hold an RUP dealers license. This includes each outlet or satellite location that sells restricted use pesticides. In addition dealers licenses are not transferable in the event of a change of ownership.

As specified in section 38-21-33.4 of the state pesticide statute, a pesticide dealers license shall be required for each location or outlet located within this state from which such (RUP) pesticides are distributed.

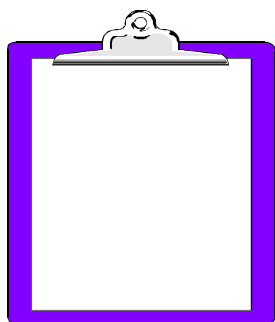
Recently a number of outlets have been in violation of this provision. The majority of these violations weren't deliberate and occurred after consolidation of businesses took place and subsequently only the main office requested the license. To comply with this provision, one person may hold the dealers license for the main office and the other branch locations or you can have the license in an employees name at the branch location. The responsibility to maintain accurate records rest with the licensed individual.

COMMERCIAL APPLICATORS SURVEY

Commercial applicators statewide will be receiving pesticide application summary report requests with their license/certification renewal packet. This year the department is instituting a simplified form that uses the **EPA Registration Number**. If you select the EPA number option a substantial amount of the record keeping job will be done by the department, saving you time and effort. The new form will be designed so the department can take advantage of form scanning technology, the same technology used currently to correct certification tests.

It has been several years since the last data collection. The information will be used for the benefit of Pesticides and Ground Water, Emergency Exemptions and responding to federal proposals, State Management plans, Total Maximum Daily Loads and Endangered Species protection. More information on the data collection will be presented at the upcoming

RESTRICTED USE PESTICIDE RECORDKEEPING INSPECTION



In the next few months you may receive a call from the South Dakota Department of Agriculture to set up an appointment to inspect your records. As a certified private applicator you are required to keep records

on any federally restricted use pesticides you have used on your farm. Private applicators are selected to be inspected through a random selection process. Random selections are made from the state's private applicator data-base or the restricted use pesticide sales list of pesticide dealers. Your name or certification number will not appear on the inspection sheet. Your identity and the results of your specific inspection will remain confidential.

What to expect if you are selected for a records audit. A designated State, Federal or Tribal agency representative may have access to inspect your records upon presentation of credentials. Also when treating an individual who may have been exposed to restricted use pesticides, certified/licensed health care professionals, or those acting under their direction, may have access to your records. In the case of a medical emergency, record information must be made available immediately.

Any certified applicator who fails to comply with the regulations shall be subject to a civil penalty of not more than \$550.00 in the case of a first offense, and shall be subject to a civil penalty of not less than \$1,100.00 for each violation for subsequent offenses. However a civil penalty may be less than \$1,100.00 if the Agricultural Marketing Service Administrator determines that the certified applicator made a good-faith effort to comply. The additional benefits in keeping good records are that it is just a good business practice and it may save you money; accurate pesticide records will enable you to know and buy the correct amount of pesticides for each growing season. Good records prevent future failures. Your good records may provide liability protection, should a problem arise concerning pesticide use. Your application records may help your next growing seasons management plans, since some pesticides have restrictions on what can be planted in the following growing year.

PESTICIDE STORAGE

Long term pesticide storage requires careful consideration. Now is the time of year to take a good look at your pesticide storage area. Different types and formulations of pesticides may require different storage requirements, however some recommendations apply to all. Pesticides should be stored in a secure and locked area away from normal farm and business activities. Ideally, they should be stored in a building or lockable storage space dedicated solely for pesticide storage. Unacceptable storage areas include areas such as under the work bench in the shop, in the office or in the basement of your residence.

The ability to lock up your storage area is important in not only being able to protect children or others from coming in contact with the pesticide, but will also reduce the possibility of theft. Storing liquid pesticides during the winter months may present some special problems. Consult the pesticide labels to determine if the products you have on hand need to be kept above the freezing mark. If so, supplemental heat must be provided.

Make an inventory of the products on hand and label these items with the date of purchase. This inventory may come in useful in the event of a fire or other disaster. Another good idea is to store old products up front so they will be used up first. When possible, store products on shelves over a concrete floor to help identify and contain leaks. Always store pesticides in their original containers, problems from pesticides with mistaken identity may not only be costly, they may be fatal. Check the storage area on a regular basis and have absorbent material such as saw dust or other material on hand to soak up liquid spills. A little time spent this fall evaluating your pesticide storage needs, may be a wise investment of your time and resources.



WARM DRY CONDITIONS MAY HAVE ADVERSE EFFECTS ON SAVED SOYBEAN SEED

Soybean producers saving non-patented varieties of soybean seed for next season's planting should proceed with caution this year. Due to warm dry conditions during the growing season and through harvest soybean seed quality may be substandard in some regions.

Lack of moisture during seed development can result in small and underdeveloped seed which leads to reduced vigor and germination. Warm dry conditions after the plant has reached maturity accelerates drying which can save the producer drying costs but can also proceed beyond optimal moisture content and lead to shattering in the field at harvest. Soybeans that are harvested at moisture contents below optimal moisture content results in seed damage and increased amount of foreign material such as pods/stems

If it is intended to plant soybean seed saved from this season it is recommended to have it tested by a reputable seed laboratory prior to planting next spring. More information regarding seed tests can be obtained from the SD Department of Agriculture or SDSU Seed Testing Laboratory (www.abs.sdstate.edu/Labs_Services/seedlab/index.htm)

To avoid crop loss from poor germination it is recommended to purchase and plant a class of certified seed. Directories that list producers of certified seed in South Dakota are available from the SD Crop Improvement Association, Seed Certification Service or on the internet at (www.abs.sdstate.edu/labs_services/seedcert/Growerdir.htm)



WHAT ARE BIOPESTICIDES

Biopesticides (also known as biological pesticides) are certain types of pesticides derived from such natural materials as animals, plants, bacteria, and certain materials. At the end of 1998, national there were approximately 175 registered biopesticide active ingredients and 700# products. Biopesticides are another management option for the producer. Biopesticides generally affect only the target pest, in contrast to conventional pesticides that may affect non-target organisms like birds, insects and mammals. Biopesticides fall into three major classes:

- (1) **Microbial pesticides** contain a microorganism as the active ingredient. These pesticides can kill many different kinds of pests. For example, there are fungi that control weeds, other fungi that control cockroaches, and bacteria that control plant diseases. The most widely used microbial pesticides are various types of the bacterium (*Bacillus thuringiensis*, or BT) which can control specific insects in corn alfalfa, cotton and other crops. BT acts by producing a protein that kills the larvae of specific insect pests.
- (2) **Plant-pesticides** are pesticidal substances that plants produce from genetic material that has been added to the plant. For example, scientists can take the gene for the Bt pesticidal protein, and introduce the gene into the plants own genetic material. Then the plant, instead of the Bt bacterium, manufactures the substance that destroys the pest. Both the protein and its genetic material are regulated by EPA.
- (3) **Biochemical pesticides** are naturally occurring substances that control pests by non-toxic mechanisms. Conventional pesticides, by contrast, are synthetic materials that usually kill or inactivate the pest. Biochemical pesticides include substances, such as pheromones, that interfere with growing or mating of the pest. Because it is sometimes difficult to determine whether a natural pesticide controls the pest by a non-toxic mode of action, EPA has formed a committee to determine whether a pesticide meets the criteria for a biochemical pesticide.

2000 PESTICIDE CONTAINER COLLECTION RESULTS

Preliminary estimates indicate the Department of Agriculture collected approximately 46,000 rinsed pesticide containers this past year during the collection program. This is an increase of over 7% from last year's total collection of 42,642 containers.

Ag. Program specialist Tim Hagen, attributes the increased container numbers this year to the efforts of community pesticide dealers making a greater effort to get the word out to their patrons and to also collect more of their own containers, that they use in their custom work.

The largest non-permanent collection site this year was at the Watertown location. Over 6,500 empty pesticide containers were collected at this site. Watertown was also the largest non-permanent collection site in 1999.

Ag. specialist Hagen expects the number of containers collected in future years to remain fairly constant. While more people become aware of the program, fewer containers will be available for recycling due to increased industry reliance on bulk containers and the lower use-rate per acre chemicals.

There are two permanent locations where you can drop off containers; Pierre and Vermillion. Please call ahead if you have containers to drop off so that personnel at the two locations can assist you.



2000 UNUSEABLE PESTICIDE COLLECTION RESULTS

The South Dakota Department of Agriculture held "Unuseable Pesticide" collections at seven sites across the state, during October of this year, with the total amount of unuseable products collected exceeding 30,000 pounds. Registration for the collection program this year was up over past years due to the increase in promotion of the program by the "Spruce Up South Dakota" program. While the number of registrations was up this year, the total amount collected remained to be about the average for the past eight collection years. The total amount of products collected since the program began in 1993 is 262,294 pounds.

Collections will continue on an annual basis, with collections being held in the fall of the year. In order to be eligible for the program all products must be pre-registered with the Department of Agriculture. Registration forms are available from the South Dakota Department of Agriculture, from the County Extension Service or on the internet at

www.state.sd.us/doa/das/hp-pest.htm#waste. The registration forms are accepted at any time of the year.

This program is free of charge and open to anyone with pesticide products in their possession. All products registered for the program will be evaluated to determine eligibility. Unuseable pesticides are defined as: any pesticide formulation that cannot be used according to label directions because of cancellation or suspension of its federal registration or deterioration of the product or its label, and any pesticide formulation whose active ingredients are not clearly identifiable because the pesticide is not stored in its original container. Additionally, products that are in containers that are deteriorating are eligible for this program.



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DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Division of Agricultural Services
Foss Building, 523 East Capitol
Pierre, South Dakota 57501-3188

Bulk Rate
U.S. Postage
PAID
Permit #1209
Sioux Falls, SD

ENFORCEMENT CASE UPDATE

Southeast SD- A commercial pest control operator paid an \$850 civil penalty for applying a pesticide inconsistent with the labeling, for not protecting the water source with a back-flow device and not using containment while mixing the pesticide near a residence.

Eastern SD- A commercial applicator paid a \$330 civil penalty for drift from an application of 2,4 -D onto a field of soybeans.

Western SD- A commercial applicator paid a \$385 civil penalty for drift from a Roundup burn down application onto adjacent hay ground. Weather records indicate strong winds during application time.

Northeast SD- A retail facility paid a \$440 civil penalty for selling a restricted- use pesticide to an uncertified applicator. The applicator paid a \$160 civil penalty for purchasing and using the RUP.

Central SD- A commercial applicator paid a \$2000 civil penalty for recommending a pesticide application that was not consistent with the label and for falsifying records when it appeared there may be a problem. A second applicator paid a \$1375 civil penalty for making the non-labeled application, (3rd violation by this applicator in five year time frame).